Sale of Wheat and Rice

5464. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wheat and rice sold by the Food Corporation of India to the mill owners and small traders under the open sale scheme during the last two years and till August 31, 1996;

(b) whether any quota has been fixed by the Government for the sale of wheat and rice to mill owners and small traders;

(c) if so, the details thereof, separately;

(d) if not, whether the Government are aware of the fact that small traders are not getting the benefit of this scheme because mill owners purchase wheat and rice in bulk; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Wheat and rice under Open Market Sale Scheme are sold by FCI to wholesellers, retailers, Roller Flour Mills, Chakkis, Cooperatives, Super Bazars, State Civil Supplies Corporations, etc., The total quantity of wheat and rice sold under open market sale scheme (domestic) during last two years and upto August, 1996 is as under :—

(Qty. in lakh MTs)

Year	Wheat	Rice
1994-95	50.29	4.54
1995-96	63.38	6.36
1996-97 (Upto Aug. 96) (Provisional)	9.2	1.60

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e) The revised guidelines with a view to ensure a fair and equitable open sale of wheat have been issued by the Government on 26.8.1996. They include allotment by a Three-member Committee at the FCI regional level on proper identification of the intending purchaser. To satisfy as many of genuine intending purchasers including small traders as possible, the maximum quantity to be sold to one purchaser in a month has also been reduced to 100 MTs or 200 MTs depending on the size of the FCI godown. The offtake of rice under the scheme has been very less during the current financial year.

[English]

Non-payment of Grants-in-Aid to Education Centres

5465. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the voluntary organisations running education centres in Orissa for the tribal women are not being paid grants-in-aid in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to make the grants available in time;

(d) whether representations have been made by some of the voluntary organisations for raising the amounts of grants and making them payable once in the whole year; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The grants have not been released to some organisations in Orissa for want of inspection reports from the State Government and for non-receipt of proposals from the Non-Governmental Organisations for release of the grants. The State Government and the concerned NGOs have been asked to expedite the requisite material.

(d) and (e) Some organisations have requested for raising the amounts of the grant-in-aid, but this is not possible as the cost of setting up and running of the educational complex for Scheduled Tribe girls in Low Literacy Pockets, is fixed. No representation has been received from the NGOs in Orissa for making the grant payable once in a year. As a matter of policy, grant in aid has to be released in two instalments.

[Translation]

Supply of Inferior Quality Wheat, Rice and Sugar

5466. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that inferior quality of rice, wheat and sugar are being supplied through the fair price shops to the consumers of South Delhi particularly in Sarojini Nagar, Lakshmibai Nagar and R.K. Puram;

(b) the number of complaints received by the Union Government in this regard during the last three years till August 31, 1996;